NCF report on MSP of crops

1818. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers has submitted its final report;

(b) if so, whether the above report consists of steps to be taken for Minimum Support Price for a wide range of crops important to the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(c) if so, the details of above recommendations and the steps taken to implement it, if any;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken so as to persuade farmers to sell their harvest, especially crops, related to PDS, to public agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Commission has recommended announcement of MSP before sowing, taking into account the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices.

The recommendations made by the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

(e) The Central Government extends price support, *inter alia*, to paddy, coarse grains and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. The producers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them. Incentive bonus is also given to the farmers to procure sufficient quantity of foodgrains. The Central Government also fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane.

Schemes for setting up agro and rural industries

1819. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of central schemes being implemented for setting up agro/rural industries in the country;

(b) the details of allocation made for this purpose during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government would launch a scheme to impart training to people in the rural areas on the techniques of agro/rural industries?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Industries in the rural areas of the country are promoted by the Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) through two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), implemented through the States and Union Territories. Approximately, fifty per cent of the units established under PMRY (implemented in both rural and urban areas) are estimated to be in rural areas. These units are part of agro and rural industries sector.

Under the REGP, an eligible entrepreneur can establish a village industry by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loan from any public sector scheduled commercial bank. For this purpose, the prospective entrepreneur has to submit a project proposal to the State offices of the KVIC or the District offices of the respective State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) or the implementing banks directly. Approval of the project depends on technical and financial appraisal by the respective banks. Applicants in categories like ex-servicemen, SCs/STs, women entrepreneurs, etc., are entitled to margin money assistance @ 30 per cent for projects up to Rs. 10 lakh *vis a vis* 25 per cent admissible to applicants of general categories. Entrepreneurs from the former categories are required to contribute only 5 per cent of the cost of the project as own contribution (as against 10 per cent for general categories).

Similarly, under the PMRY, educated unemployed youth can establish a self-employment unit of village industry in the rural areas by availing of permissible subsidy and loan from the banks. This Yojana is implemented through the District Industries Centres of States and Union Territories. For this purpose, the prospective entrepreneur has to submit a project proposal to the District Industries Centre concerned, which, in turn, sponsors short-listed applications to the implementing banks. Project costing upto Rs. 1 lakh for business sector and upto Rs. 2 lakh in industry sector are eligible for assistance, with the subsidy being limited to 15 per cent of the

project cost, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7,500/-. This ceiling is higher at Rs. 15,000/- per beneficiary, in the case of beneficiaries from the North-Eastern Region.

Further, the Government has approved the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). This Scheme envisages the development, *inter alia*, of 25 clusters of khadi, 50 clusters of village industries and 25 clusters of coir industries, over five years beginning 2005-06. The guidelines of SFURTI are available on the website of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries at http://ari.nic.in.

(b) REGP is a Central Sector scheme and approved grants for the scheme are released to the KVIC which, in turn, releases the funds (towards margin money assistance) to the banks against the projects sanctioned in each State/Union Territory (UT). The State/UT-wise details of margin money assistance provided by KVIC under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in Statement - I. (*See* below). Under the PMRY, allocation of the subsidy and release of funds are based on the targets for States/UTs. The subsidy amount is released directly to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) which, in turn, releases the necessary amounts to the implementing banks. The amounts of subsidy released to the RBI during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given below:

Year	Subsidy released under PMRY (Rs. crore)
2003-04	147.63
2004-05	190.48
2005-06	251.36

The amounts of grant released to the States/UTs for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-03, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in Statement - II. (*See* below)

(c) Training in agro and rural industries is imparted through the Departmentally-managed training centre of KVIC as well as training centres of other agencies aided by KVIC/Khadi & Village Industries Boards of States/Union Territories (UT). The details of the training activities of KVIC are available on its website, *viz.*, http://update.kvic.org.in/HRD/HRD/MDTC.htm.

Similarly, State/UT Governments can involve reputed Non-Governmental Organisations, Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics Colleges, etc., in the training of PMRY beneficiaries. State/UT Government also organise special training courses exclusively for scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and women entrepreneurs.

Statement - I

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of margin money assistance provided under the REGP during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

(Rs. lakh)

S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
I	**North Zone**			
1.	Chandigarh	10.24	21.45	3.63
2.	Delhi	12.31	8.09	16.66
3.	Haryana	1938.96	2142.25	1782.18
4.	Himachal Pradesh	757.11	657.72	889.90
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	363.45	584.55	833.56
6.	Punjab	819.03	1834.63	837.21
7.	Rajasthan	2890.28	2064.33	2679.91
II	**East Zone**			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	28.44	4.16	218.87
2.	Bihar	186.03	281.69	570.54
3.	Jharkhand	198.08	320.60	351.12
4.	Orissa	784.11	863.05	837.22
5.	West Bengal	1593.51	1999.62	2100.06
III	**North East Zone**			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.77	66.03	126.54
2.	Assam	806.83	1277.42	2719.99
3.	Manipur	41.19	73.66	43.85
4.	Meghalaya	121.79	196.03	234.14

S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
5.	Mizoram	61.10	257.48	995.54
6.	Nagaland	117.20	204.46	286.22
7.	Tripura	224.02	214.14	289.95
8.	Sikkim	127.67	165.78	139.54
IV	**South Zone**			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1675.40	3394.19	3627.58
2.	Karnataka	1692.17	1063.83	1697.66
3.	Kerala	2753.15	1027.95	1603.41
4.	Lakshadweep	7.42	0.00	16.39
5.	Pondicherry	11.38	9.05	12.66
6.	Tamil Nadu	1362.17	1147.28	1217.13
V	**West Zone**			
1.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.13	0.00	0.00
2.	Goa	82.98	88.90	103.68
3.	Gujarat	130.34	530.55	883.08
4.	Maharashtra	873.25	1439.17	1596.48
VI	**Central Zone**			
1.	Chhattisgarh	1098.00	1000.91	1152.87
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1355.07	2125.71	1114.33
3.	Uttaranchal	979.70	578.63	617.86
4.	Uttar Pradesh	3415.18	3596.64	2495.99
	GRAND TOTAL :	26574.46	29239.95	32095.75

Statement - II

States/UTs-wise details of grants released for entrepreneurial development and contingencies under the PMRY during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

(Rs. lakh)

S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	191.44	293.34	176.72
2.	Assam	58.97	100.71	77.80
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.47	5.39	4.54
4.	Bihar	101.54	19.87	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	36.08	50.84	41.02
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	20.27	53.07	13.38
9.	Haryana	68.99	74.20	45.64
10.	Himachal Pradesh	19.48	5.12	15.02
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	13.16	0.00	11.71
12.	Jharkhand	0.00	34.56	0.06
13.	Karnataka	148.93	173.19	124.08
14.	Kerala	112.21	175.75	176.63
15.	Madhya Pradesh	149.32	265.38	226.32
16.	Maharashtra	191.31	173.92	128.04
17.	Manipur	5.57	4.55	1.23
18.	Meghalaya	7.10	8.29	8.22
19.	Mizoram	3.61	3.24	8.22
20.	Nagaland	1.00	17.12	22.03
21.	Orissa	91.34	147.50	135.46
22.	Punjab	78.18	81.45	55.67
23.	Rajasthan	106.01	104.30	109.97
24.	Tamil Nadu	147.94	136.75	155.28

S.No.	States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
25.	Tripura	18.23	21.24	22.70
26.	Uttar Pradesh	402.54	644.91	422.85
27.	Uttaranchal	25.83	92.76	64.16
28.	West Bengal	0.00	19.12	29.10
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.06	2.51	0.55
30.	Chandigarh	0.47	1.02	3.98
31.	Daman & Diu	0.04	0.03	0.03
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.15	0.20	0.19
33.	Lakshadweep	0.12	0.14	0.05
34.	Pondicherry	5.37	4.74	-0.57
35.	Sikkim	0.48	0.25	0.89
	TOTAL :	2010.20	2715.43	2082.12

*Approximately fifty per cent of the units established are estimated to be in rural areas.

Financial assistance to artisans and weavers

†1820. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a plan to provide financial assistance to artisans and weavers under self-employment credit card scheme;

(b) if so, the number of weavers and artisans benefited, so far, all over the country, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government are considering to benefit the weavers working in non-cooperative sector under Deendayal Handloom Promotion Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) does not implement any self-employment credit card scheme to provide financial assistance to artisans and weavers in the khadi and village industries (KVI) sector.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.